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Worldwide Report

LAW OF THE SEA

No. 124



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NEW ZEALAND FISHERMEN CALL FOR CUTS IN FOREIGN QUOTAS

Unfair Competition Charged

Auckland THE NEW ZEALAND HERALD in English 29 May 80 p 10

[Text]

A call for further cuts in foreign fishing quotas in the New Zealand economic zone was made yesterday.

The president of the New Zealand Federation of Commercial Fishermen, Mr E. L. Collins, told the federation's annual conference in Nelson that he believed New Zealand fishermen had the knowledge and capacity to harvest most of the fish available on the continental shelf, with the possible exception of squid.

He said pressure by the federation had resulted in the Government cutting quotas for foreign licensed vessels earlier this year and imposing tighter controls on joint-venture agreements.

But sales of fish by foreign vessels to the local market and in competition with locally caught fish on overseas markets were causing concern to the federation.

Warned

"Foreign-owned vessels are catching fish in our zone with subsidised operations, processing this fish with cheap labour and selling it on the world market in competition with our own fish," he said.

"The industry warned the Government that this would happen but in its wisdom it would not or could not take notice of our advice."

"We are now in a position of not being able to compete on equal terms with such operations and we are suffering accordingly."

"The Government must take some early action on this matter, particularly for the Australian market, or much of the development of exports over recent years will be ruined."

Into Effect

The Minister of Fisheries, Mr MacIntyre, told the conference he got "a lot of dramatic calls to exclude all foreign-licensed vessels."

"I can only wonder where the callers have been to have completely missed the fact that a severe reduction has been put into effect already," he said.

The Government had reduced the fin-fish allocation to the Soviet Union dramatically and largely restricted all foreign-licensed vessel quotas to one area, adding restrictions on the species to be caught.

The Korean presence had been reduced virtually to nil

and the Japanese were not showing overmuch interest in quotas largely reduced to the one area.

Mr MacIntyre said last season the Russians caught only 69 per cent of their allocation, the Koreans 48 per cent and the Japanese 36 per cent, although all foreign-licensed vessels paid licence fees in full. These amounted to \$3 million for fin-fish, \$684,000 for tuna and \$3.5 million for squid.

In the bottom-lining fishery, foreign-licensed vessel allocations had been made only after allowing for New Zealand harvesting capacity, and foreign fishing off the West Coast had been restricted to areas below 43 degrees south.

Necessary

Foreign-licensed trawlers had again been excluded from the West Coast.

Mr MacIntyre said the rapid expansion of the industry must now give way to a phase of consolidation.

It appeared inevitable that the country must move into an era of controlled access to limited resource fisheries.

"It seems absolutely

necessary that we manage our fisheries, not by allocating out a total resource for the whole of New Zealand waters, but by allocating access to particular species in particular areas over specified times," said Mr MacIntyre.

Mr Collins, in his address, made a strong attack on management of New Zealand's coastal waters by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, declaring that "the major cause of the demise of the inshore fishery has been the lack of management."

Gut Feeling

"It will only be through a great deal of improvement in our management that any confidence will be brought back into our industry," he said.

"Fishermen have had for some considerable time a gut feeling that all is not well with our inshore fisheries and that it is time the brakes were put on before it is too late."

He suggested a controlled entry be implemented immediately on all methods and for all fisheries.

Ban on Soviet Ships Demanded

Wellington THE EVENING POST in English 30 May 80 p 16

[Text] Nelson, Today (PA)--New Zealand fishermen called yesterday for an immediate expulsion of all Soviet fishing vessels from the 200 mile economic zone.

The decision came in a majority vote at the New Zealand Federation of Commercial Fishermen's conference in Nelson yesterday.

The conference heard that a condition for a New Zealander to join one Soviet fishing boat was that he be "confined to his cabin" at certain times.

"A fisherman applied to go as an observer but was told, and the federation has this in writing, that due to what they called operational difficulties, he would have to go to his cabin during certain hours," said Nelson Fishermen's Association president, Mr Mike Connolly.

The remit calling for a ban on Soviet vessels came from the Nelson association, which wanted it seen as a protest against the Soviet

intervention in Afghanistan.

"We felt that this would be in line with the Australian move to expel Russian boats," Nelson association vice president, Mr Chris Sharp, told the conference.

"Why should our athletes carry the burden of protest with their boycott?" he asked. "It would be hypocritical of us to expect them to carry this burden while some joint venture companies dealing with the Russians grow fat."

Former federation president Mr Chris Spiers, of Port Chalmers, said the Russians should be banned for fishing rather than political reason.

He said the Russians had "a lot of uneconomic boats"

in working in New Zealand waters.

"Because of this, they market fish below value and price New Zealand fishermen off overseas markets," he said. "The Russians are the easiest to get into a country as fishing partners but I bet they are the hardest to remove."

Federation liaison officer, Mr Ian McWhannell, said he sent a telegram to two New Zealand companies involved in Russian joint ventures, Sanfords and Fletchers, urging them to withdraw from the agreement in protest at the Soviet move into Afghanistan.

"We got no reply from Sanfords and Fletchers informed us that they intended to continue fishing," he said.

Russians Reject Complaints

Wellington THE EVENING POST in English 31 May 80 p 2

/Text/

New Zealand commercial fishermen have been accused by the Russians of "gross fabrication" in their criticism of Soviet fishing activities within New Zealand's 200 mile economic zone.

The NZ Federation of Commercial Fishermen's conference in Nelson this week called for the immediate expulsion of all Soviet fishing vessels.

Although some delegates saw the move as a protest against Soviet intervention in Afghanistan, others ac-

cused the Russians of undercutting New Zealand fishermen on overseas markets.

At one stage, the conference got the Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries (Mr MacIntyre) to agree to an investigation of alleged dumping on the Australian market by the Russians.

Last night the Soviet fisheries representative in Wellington, Mr Oleg V Bakurin, in a statement released through the Soviet Embassy, commented on behalf of the "owners of the Soviet fishing vessels" oper-

ating in the New Zealand economic zone.

"Arguments raised at the conference to substantiate the need of safeguarding the local fishery interests against the Soviet fishing, are gross fabrication. They could not be supported by any facts," he stated.

"The New Zealand fishermen are well aware that the Soviet fishing vessels have to fish in the distant sea areas of the zone where the local fishermen have never been fishing."

Mr Bakurin says fishery experts could not help but

know that the Soviet fishery in the zone is limited by three to four species which are unfamiliar to the locals and could not be competitive with New Zealand fish exports.

"The Soviet fishermen, who more than once showed their spirit of cooperation and mutual assistance in the course of hard and laborious work at sea, express their hopes that the common sense will triumph for the sake of restoration of sincere cooperation between the fishermen of the both countries," he said.

CSO: 5200

SHKOLNIKOVA VIEWS SALMON FISHING ARRANGEMENTS BETWEEN USSR-JAPAN

LD220837 Moscow NOVOYE VREMYA in Russian No 20, 16 May 80 pp 26-27

[T. Shkolnikova article: "USSR-Japan: Taking Mutual Interests Into Account"]

[Text] The Soviet Union and Japan have accumulated considerable experiences of solving complex questions of international fishing. Many disagreements have arisen in more than 20 years of cooperation, but the two sides have invariably found common approaches toward resolving them in mutual interests.

The preservation of the world ocean's fish stocks has long been on the agenda of many international forums and bilateral talks on fishing questions. It was also the focus of attention at the talks on Japanese salmon fishing in the northwest Pacific in 1980.

Despite intensive fishing, the northwest Pacific still remains one of the most productive areas of the world ocean. It contains mackerel, Alaskan pollock, tuna, Pacific mackerel, bass, cod, and plaice. But the area's chief resource is salmon, crabs and herring. Fishing plays a considerable role in providing the population with high-calorie food-stuffs in our country and Japan.

The revision of relations between the two countries on fishery questions associated with the establishment by the two states of national jurisdiction in 200-mile sea areas adjoining their coasts was largely completed as a result of the talks held in 1977-1979. New bilateral agreements have been concluded which have created the preconditions for more multifaceted ties.

Scientists' recommendations have begun to play a greater role. The adoption of specific decisions during the talks was preceded by careful study of the problem in a joint fishery commission. Soviet scientists confirmed the opinion that the number of salmon in the northwest Pacific, especially Siberian and red salmon, is still low and that effective measures are needed to regulate fishing.

Like other so-called migratory fish, salmon have a river and sea development cycle. At the age of 1-3 years they "descend" the rivers into the sea, only to return once again to the same rivers for spawning a few years later. The draft convention on the law of the sea lays down that the salmon's state of origin has a preferential right throughout their migration until they enter foreign states' fishing zones. This thesis is already reflected in USSR and Japanese legislation. So our country's interest

in preserving the marine stocks of the Siberian, humpback, red and king salmon that spawn in the rivers of the Soviet Far East is understandable. This interest prompted the Soviet side to put forward a scientifically substantiated proposal for a total end to sea fishing for salmon. In specialists' opinion, it is easier in the rivers to demarcate the fish that need to be allowed upriver to spawn and the fish that can be caught. It is also clear that it is easier on rivers to organize fishing for this species. Another argument is also of considerable importance--only nature fish, the so-called breeders, travel to the spawning grounds. Therefore the catching of young fish, which happens quite often during sea fishing, is completely ruled out.

Despite the fact that Soviet fishermen carry out only coastal fishing in river estuaries, the USSR agreed to another round of talks regarding the procedure and conditions for sea fishing for salmon by Japanese fishermen. The Soviet side did this in a desire to contribute to strengthening Soviet-Japanese relations. Under the terms of the 1980 protocol, the total catch quota for Japanese fishermen remained at last year's level, totaling 42,500 tons.

In its turn, Japan is reimbursing the Soviet Union for part of the outlay on breeding salmon under artificial conditions, which is carried out on a large scale in our country. The amount of compensation was increased by comparison with last year. Japanese firms will use these funds to supply various equipment for artificial fish breeding and the production of the granular feed that the fish find it easy to assimilate.

The protocol on Japanese salmon fishing signed in Moscow also envisages measures to regulate the catch: Maximum amounts are established and the parameters of the fishing gear are laid down. A minimum distance (8-10km) between one ship's nets in the water and the next ship's is also prescribed, which makes it possible to leave gaps through which the fish can travel to the spawning grounds. The fishing season is also strictly defined.

All these measures, and others, are designed to save shoals from overfishing. The observance of these rules will be supervised by special fishery monitoring agents. However, this does not relieve the fishermen themselves of responsibility.

"It is easy to overfish a species such as salmon, so there is a tremendous responsibility to exploit the species correctly and rationally, use it thriftily, preserve it and increase its numbers for the sake of future generations," Y.M. Kamentsev, USSR minister of fish industry stressed.

CSO: 5200

LIBYA GIVES AIRCRAFT TO PROTECT EEZ

Victoria NATION in English 25 Jun 80 p 1

[Text]

S EYCHELLES capacity to cast a protective eye over its exclusive economic zone (EEZ) was strengthened yesterday with the presentation of two light aircraft by the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya.

Two Rallye aircraft were officially presented to the Minister of Defence, Mr. Ogilvy Berlouis, at Seychelles International Airport yesterday morning by Lieutenant Colonel Yusseff A. Debri, Chief of Staff and Head of the External Relations Bureau of the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya. The aircraft will join the recently acquired Maritime Defender in the surveillance of our EEZ and ensuring that our stocks of fish are not depleted through the action of poachers.

Lieutenant Colonel Debri also presented Minister Berlouis a cheque for R. 638,700 (30,000 Libyan dinars) as a gift to the Seychelles People's Liberation Army, to assist the SPLA in the field of communications.

Among those who were present at the presentation ceremonies were Mr. Taher Toumi, the Chargé d'Affaires in the Libyan Embassy and Major Mokhtar Abdelsalam from the Libyan Bureau of External Affairs.

CSO: 5200

BRIEFS

ALLEGED MOROCCAN ATTACK ON SPANISH BOAT--Rabat--Following reports in Algiers regarding an alleged attack on a Spanish fishing vessel in the waters off Dakhla, authorized Moroccan sources have categorically refuted these allegations, explaining that no such incident took place in Moroccan territorial waters. The Moroccan sources believe that the whole matter is a mere fabrication which has psychological dimensions; it has been invented at a time when the POLISARIO mercenaries are in a state of confusion and desperation in the wake of the drastic defeats they have suffered. [Text] [LD041109 Rabat MAP in Arabic 0900 GMT 4 Jun 80]

SPAIN'S PROTECTION FOR FISHING FLEET--REUTER news agency reports that 300 Spanish fishing craft set sail yesterday from Canary Islands ports toward Saharan Democratic Arab Republic [SDAR] territorial waters after the government of Madrid guaranteed them the protection of the Spanish military fleet. Observers consider this Spanish position a provocation to the SDAR Government and the Spanish authorities will be responsible for the consequences of this provocation. As is known, the POLISARIO Front has repeatedly warned foreign fishermen against any violation of the sovereignty of Saharan territorial waters. In a communique issued in this connection the SDAR Information Ministry recalls the numerous warnings issued to all foreign fishing fleets and interests to refrain from fishing and from collaborating with the enemy in war zones. [Excerpts] [LD091316 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 9 Jun 80]

ANGOLAN-SPANISH COOPERATION--The Spanish transport and communications minister, Jose Luis Alvares [as heard], yesterday concluded a 24-hour visit to Angola. This visit enabled him to conclude a fisheries agreement which provides for the professional training of Angolan cadres by Spain and the establishment of a canning industry. The Spanish minister was received in audience yesterday by President Jose Eduardo Dos Santos, to whom he delivered a message from King Juan Carlos. [Luanda Domestic Service in French 1100 GMT 12 Jun CA]

ITALY-SOMALI FISHING AGREEMENT--Rome, May 28 (ANSA)--A joint Italo-Somali fishing program designed to give a big push to the African state's fishing industry is slated as one of the results of a cooperation agreement signed here Tuesday. The signatories at the Italian Foreign Ministry Building were Somali Agriculture and Fishing Minister Osman Jama Ali and Italian Foreign Undersecretary Giuseppe Zamberletti. [Excerpt] [Rome ANSA in English 0845 GMT 28 May 80 AU]

UN INDO-PACIFIC COMMISSION MEETING--Kyoto May 29 KYODO--The discrepancy in approaches to fishery problems between industrialized and developing countries became evident during an eight-day meeting of the Indo-Pacific Fisheries Commission of the UN Food and Agriculture Organization which ended in Kyoto Thursday. Delegates discussed development of small-scale fisheries in a symposium and then governmental consultations were conducted on conservation of tuna resources, breeding and fishery in inland waters. During the meetings, industrial countries stressed fisheries should be considered as one of the world food problems, whereas developing nations placed priority on freedom from poverty and unemployment. The next IPFC session will be held in Jakarta in 1982. [Text] [OW290849 Tokyo KYODO in English 0841 GMT 29 May 80]

MAURITIUS CLAIMS TROMELIN--Mauritius has decided to officially proclaim its sovereignty over the island of Tromelin. Following a cabinet session, Suresh Moorthi, minister of information, confirmed his government's intention to include the island on the list of its dependencies. [In addition to France ...] the Republic of Madagascar also lays claim to the island. However, Paul Berenger, leader of the Mauritian opposition, recently declared that Malagasy President Didier Ratsiraka had given him assurances that he was ready to relinquish the claim. On the other hand, Ratsiraka still plans to have Malagasy sovereignty over the islands of Europa, Juan de Nova and les Glorieuses, also claimed by the French, recognized. The dispute may eventually be brought before The Hague. [Excerpts] [Paris LE MONDE in French 23 Jun 80 p 6]

CSO: 3200

AUSTRALIAN LONGLINE FISHING BAN OF CONCERN TO JAPANESE

Australian Announcement

Melbourne THE AGE in English 6 Jun 80 p 5

[Text]

CANBERRA. — The Government will ban all longline fishing from an extensive area of waters off North Queensland.

Japanese authorities have been told that the rights of Japanese longliners in the new closed area will cease on 31 October.

The Minister for Primary Industry, Mr Nixon announced the new ban yesterday.

It covers an area of about 48,000 square miles and is in addition to those areas off Queensland where longline fishing is already prohibited under the Australia/Japan tuna longline fishing agreement.

The new area of closure will run parallel to the coast, about 140 miles out to sea, from just north of Townsville to almost the top of Cape York Peninsula. The closed area will extend on average of 110 miles beyond the outer edge of the Great Barrier Reef.

Mr Nixon said the Government's decision was based on a recommendation of the game fish working committee.

The committee was established last October to monitor and analyse information on Japanese longlining activity during the course of the tuna fishing agreement. The committee is made up

of officials of the Commonwealth, Queensland and NSW Governments and representatives of major game fishing organisations.

Mr Nixon said the Government had decided on the additional area of closure because of the economic importance of the black marlin sport fishery in the Cairns region.

While there was no evidence to indicate that black marlin stocks had been endangered by longline fishing in the region, the Government had accepted the finding of the committee that the Coral Sea area near Cairns provided the best recreational fishery in the world for black marlin.

"It is clearly of world-wide significance and therefore important to the Cairns area and to Australia," Mr Nixon said.

While the Japanese were primarily fishing for tuna, studies had shown that the area to be closed to longlining had provided up to 96 per cent of all black marlin taken by Japanese vessels off the entire Queensland coast.

"It is clearly of world-wide significance, which is between September and December in the area, about 5700 black marlin had been taken by Japanese longliners in the waters in the Cairns region."

Reaction in Japan

Perth THE WEST AUSTRALIAN in English 11 Jun 80 p 38

[Text]

TOKYO, Times: There has been a strong reaction from the Japanese fishing industry over Australia's decision to ban longline trawling off the Queensland coast.

An official of Japan's Fisheries Agency said it had not received formal notification of the ban. If it were introduced, Japan would expect a cut in the fee it pays for fishing in Australian waters.

Another official said the ban was ridiculous.

The decision to end the fishing off the northern coast from October 31 would have a big effect

on "the Japanese" industry.

He said both sides should try not to be abrasive on the issue. He could say nothing more until he received further details.

Australia's Primary Industry Minister, Mr Nixon, announced last week that the Government would place a ban on long-line fishing.

The original decision to allow Japanese trawlers to operate in the area was criticised by Australian fishermen who claimed the longlines were destroying stocks of black marlin.

New 'Battle' Predicted

Canberra THE WEEKEND AUSTRALIAN in English 14-15 Jun 80, Supp., p 19

[Article by Alan Goodall: "Battle of the Marlin Sea"]

[Text]

The second battle of the Coral Sea will be fought next month, and this time Japan is determined to win.

The battle is over a fish, the black marlin, one of the world's great sporting fish, although many people outside conservationists and big game fishermen might think hardly worth the risk of straining relations with our major trading partner.

The Australian government preempted the battle this weekend, and in the long run possibly lost the war, by announcing a ban on long-line fishermen, mostly Japanese, from the northern strip of the Great Barrier Reef.

Now Japan wants a rematch, and the two contenders will face each other in Canberra in July.

This resources war lacks the drama of its World War II predecessor, but its importance as a precedent is not under-rated by either country.

Japanese foreign ministry officials who fly to Canberra for Australia-Japan tuna longline fishing agreement talks in July will be armed with a pile of statistics on fishing catch ratios.

Canberra diplomats will confront them with a ministerial fiat. The Minister for Primary Industry, Mr Nixon, has announced an end to Coral Sea longline fishing and that's the end of that.

But that's not good enough for the Japanese government, charged with the responsibility of feeding 115 million fish eaters and annoyed by Australia's unilateral decision to ban 20 fishing vessels that speed south to the Coral Sea twice a year.

Tokyo is holding off a stiff protest because the government reckons it can diplomatically get Australia's peremptory handling of a longline fishing agreement due to expire on October 31.

"We never expected this treatment from Australia, especially before we even began a dialogue," one senior official lamented.

The Tokyo shock started with a statement by Mr Nixon that Australia will ban all longline fishing on October 31 from one of Japan's best tuna and marlin fishing grounds.

The prohibited area covers 124,800 square kilometres 224 kilometres out to sea from just north of Townsville to near the tip of Cape York peninsula.

The off-limits zone extends an average of 176 kilometres beyond the outer edge of the Great Barrier Reef.

Mr Nixon explained that the Government's decision was based on a recommendation of the Australian Game Fish Working Committee.

The committee was set up last October to monitor Japanese longlining, and Tokyo claims it has not yet had time to gather enough information on which to base a ban.

Canberra has given in, say Japanese critics, to ill-informed conservationists and game fishermen.

INTER-ASIAN AFFAIRS

NHK REPORTS ON PROPOSED PRC-JAPAN DEVELOPMENT OF SENKAKUS

OW120731 Tokyo KYODO in English 0722 GMT 12 Jun 80

[Text] Tokyo, June 12 KYODO -- Chinese authorities have proposed to Japan joint development of offshore oil and natural gas resources in the Senkakus waters, southwest of Okinawa, the Japan Broadcasting Corporation (NHK) reported Thursday. Quoting government sources, NHK said that the Chinese authorities made the proposal when Yoshitake Sasaki, minister of international trade and industry, visited Beijing recently. The Chinese authorities were quoted by the sources as having taken close note of reports that Prime Minister Masayoshi Ohira recently expressed interest in joint development of oil and gas resources in the Senkaku islands area with China, at the Diet-- Japanese parliament, according to the broadcast.

Akihiko Hayashi, director of the North Asia Division, the Ministry of International Trade and Industry, told KYODO NEWS SERVICE that the Chinese authorities made no joint development proposal at their meeting with Sasaki. Hayashi indicated that the territorial problem still stood in the way of joint development of oil and gas resources in the area. Japan, China and Taiwan claim sovereignty over the Senkaku islands. The U.N. Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) presumed as a result of a survey that the area has much larger oilfields than in the Japan-South Korea continental shelf oil development area.

Uruma Resources Company, a Tokyo-based development company in the Sanwa group which obtained exploration rights in the area from the MITI in 1979, is reportedly preparing to make active approaches to China for joint exploration and development. However, an Uruma spokesman denied the report. He said the matter should be handled by the two governments adding, "that is none of our business."

CSO: 5200

INTER-ASIAN AFFAIRS

CHINA TO DISCUSS CONTINENTAL SHELF PROBLEM WITH JAPAN

OW240627 Tokyo KYODO in English 0007 GMT 24 May 80

[Text] Tokyo May 24 KYODO--An expert-level meeting is expected to be held between Japan and China on the continental shelf in the East China Sea in June, at the earliest, as China has agreed to hold talks on the matter, a top Foreign Ministry official said Friday night.

The official said Xiao Xiangqian, deputy director of the Chinese Foreign Ministry's Asian Affairs Department, indicated a flexible stand on the Japanese proposal for holding of consultations on the continental shelf issue when he met with officials of the Japanese Embassy in Beijing on May 7 to lodge a protest against the start of test drilling in the continental shelf by Japan and South Korea on May 6 under the 1974 Japan-South Korea agreement on development of the continental shelf. He said Xiao revealed only that China will discuss the matter of continental shelf in the East China Sea and did not reveal what matters will be taken up.

China is taking the stand that it has sovereign rights to the continental shelf in the East China Sea and that the joint drilling for undersea oil started by Japan and South Korea in the area ignored China's sovereignty. Japan, however, is maintaining that the Japan-South Korea joint development of the area is lawful from the standpoint of the international law of the sea.

Foreign Ministry sources said the coming discussions with China are expected to take up such issues as the Japan-South Korea continental shelf development problem, marking of the continental shelf between Japan and China and the problem of continental shelf around the disputed Senkaku Islands south of Okinawa. Since China and Japan differ in views on the continental shelf issue and since the problem of territorial waters is involved in respect to the area around the Senkaku Islands, they expect the coming talks to continue for a long period of time. The sources said Japan is hoping to seek the understanding of China on the Japan-South Korea joint development project and explain its basic view on the continental shelf problem.

CSO: 9200

INTER-ASIAN AFFAIRS

BRIEFS

PHILIPPINE CONFIRMS ARREST OF TAIWANESE--Manila, June 14 (AFP)--The Philippine Navy arrested last week 37 Taiwanese fishermen who were caught poaching on Philippine fishing grounds in northern Philippines. Press reports today said Rear Admiral Ernesto Ogbinar made the announcement of the Taiwanese arrests following the protest made by the Taiwan Fishermen's Association about alleged harassment committed by a Philippine Navy patrol against their members. Mr Ogbinar indicated that the arrested fishermen were on board eight boats when they were caught by a naval patrol off Batanes Island, some 656 kilometers (410 miles) north of Manila, reports said. He said they were brought to the Coast Guard headquarters in Aparri Cagayan by a navy task force on board the RPS Lakandula. Through its provincial Department of Information, reports said the Taiwanese Government is trying to negotiate for the release of the 37 fishermen. [Text] [OW140935 Hong Kong AFP in English 0847 GMT 14 Jun 80]

ROK-JAPAN TALKS DEADLOCKED--Seoul, June 2 (HAPTONG)--The second Korea-Japan working-level talks to settle the disputes over Korean fishing operations off Hokkaido ended in failure after three days of negotiation at the Foreign Ministry here Saturday. Ministry officials said both sides decided to continue efforts to find a compromise solution to the dispute. Kunio Muraoka, charge d'affaires of the Japanese Embassy in Seoul, represented the Tokyo government at the Seoul meeting. The Korean side was represented by Kim Tae-chi, director of the Asian Affairs Bureau of the Foreign Ministry. Japan called for a voluntary regulation in the fishing operations with a drastic cut in its pollack catch by avoiding the spawning season in the area whereas the Korean side rejected the Japanese demand as unacceptable in the light of the bilateral fishery agreement of 1965. [Text] [SK020110 Seoul HAPTONG in English 0104 GMT 2 Jun 80]

ROK-JAPAN FISHERY TALKS--Seoul May 29 KYODO--Japanese and South Korean officials opened talks here Thursday on fishing of Alaska pollack by South Koreans in waters of Hokkaido, northern Japan. At the two-day negotiations, Kunio Muraoka, acting Japanese ambassador to Seoul, sought a ban on fishing by South Koreans in the area, while South Korea

contended that they have a right under a 1965 fishery agreement to fish freely there outside the 12-mile territorial waters. Kim Tae-chi, Asian Bureau director of the South Korean Foreign Ministry, said the Japanese demand is incompatible with the agreement. Kim said Japanese fishermen catch more than 200,000 tons of fish annually around the island of Cheju, dealing a big blow to South Korean fishermen. If Japan imposes restrictions on South Korean fishing near Hokkaido, South Korea would retaliate by taking similar measures against Japanese fishing in waters near South Korea, Kim added. The South Koreans catch 100,000 tons of Alaska pollack annually near Hokkaido, or about 40 percent of the total consumption of the popular fish in South Korea. [Text] [OW290633 Tokyo KYODO in English 1619 GMT 29 May 80]

INDONESIA, PAPUA NEW GUINEA PACT--Jakarta, Friday.--Indonesia has reached a tentative agreement with Papua New Guinea on the delineation of territorial waters. A spokesman for the Foreign Ministry said a text of the agreement was signed this week by representatives of the two countries meeting in Port Moresby. The agreement delineates the continental shelf and exclusive economic zones for both countries in the Pacific Ocean north of Irian Jaya and Papua. [Text] [Sydney THE SYDNEY MORNING HERALD in English 7 Jun 80 p 15]

AUSTRALIA, PRC TALKS--Darwin: A Chinese fisheries delegation from China has just concluded talks in Darwin with officials with a view to greater cooperation in fishing development between China and Australia. [Sentence as published] The visit by the six-man delegation followed a brief visit to the Northern Territory last month by a Chinese Vice Premier. The head of the mission said in Darwin that the talks would add to the development of joint ventures involving the two nations. [Text] [Perth THE WEST AUSTRALIAN in English 7 Jun 80 p 43]

AUSTRALIAN-JAPANESE TUNA BAN--Sydney, June 5, KYODO--Australia has decided to ban Japanese tuna longline fishing off Cairns in northeast Queensland, Australia, effective November 1, it was announced Thursday. Australian Primary Industry Minister Peter Nixon, who made the announcement, said the banned area covers 48,000 square miles and runs parallel to the coast about 140 miles out to sea from just north of Townsville to near the top of Cape York Peninsula. It extends an average of 110 miles beyond the outer edge of the great barrier reef. The new ban will go into effect immediately after the existing Australia-Japan tuna longline fishing agreement expires October 31. [Text] [OW051233 Tokyo KYODO in English 1031 GMT 5 Jun 80]

CSO: 5200

AUSTRALIA

BRIEFS

DEEP-WATER EXPLORATION--The expensive deep-water oil search on the Exmouth Plateau appears to have been redirected, with natural gas now a target rather than being dismissed as non-commercial in any quantity. Evidence of the switch can be seen in the move of Esso-BHP's deep-water drillships into near-shore targets rather than the early targets several hundred kilometres off-shore. The reason is sharp increases in world gas prices. A further factor could be a very encouraging engineering report on the possible production of gas from a near-shore but deep-water prospect due to be drilled later this year. The current Esso-BHP well, Zeeperd, is located about 80km off-shore. While existing technology presents problems in developing deep-water gas fields, it is understood that Esso-BHP's drilling programme has discovered immense gas reserves. The joint venture partners have never released detailed results of the discoveries--generally dismissing the gas finds as uneconomic. However, industry analysts have calculated that the gas strikes reported, combined with the size of the structure being drilled by Esso-BHP, point to potentially giant gas fields. [Excerpts] [Perth THE WEST AUSTRALIAN in English 21 Jun 80 p 44]

OFFSHORE POWERS--The off-shore legislation package which returns to the States clear powers to legislate in the area of the territorial sea has now been given Royal assent. The Commonwealth Attorney-General, Senator Durack said during the weekend that the Commonwealth Government regarded this legislation as historic. The legislation would take effect from a date to be proclaimed. [Excerpts] [Perth THE WEST AUSTRALIAN in English 2 Jun 80 p 5]

CBO: 5200

JAPAN

BRIEFS

CENTRALIZED DELIBERATIONS GROUP--Tokyo 19 Jun--The government Thursday decided to centralize deliberations on the Law of the Sea, exploitation of underground water and releasing of classified information. According to the decision, a liaison council composed of bureau chiefs of government agencies and headed by a deputy chief cabinet secretary will be established to handle matters pertaining to the Law of the Sea. The cabinet councillors' office will take charge of such matters as bills concerning the Law of the Sea. A study group will be set up to discuss the proposed law on the release of classified information. [Text]
[Tokyo KYODO in English 0454 GMT 19 Jun 80 OW]

CSO: 5200

POLICING 200-MILE ECONOMIC ZONE FOUND COSTLY

Auckland THE NEW ZEALAND HERALD in English 11 Jun 80 p 5

[Text]

Press Assn Wellington

It cost New Zealand almost as much to police its 200-mile economic zone last year as it gained from licences for foreign fishing boats.

The Minister of Fisheries, Mr MacIntyre, revealed yesterday that New Zealand's revenue from foreign boats for the 1979-80 financial year was \$8,013,000.

The cost of policing the economic zone by the Ministry of Defence and the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries amounted to \$7,447,000.

Replied in Parliament to a written question from Mr S. J. Rodger (Oppn—Dunedin North), Mr MacIntyre also released figures which

show that the foreign countries fishing New Zealand waters—South Korea, Japan and the Soviet Union—took only a proportion of their quota of fish last year.

The South Koreans took only 13,233 tonnes of finfish (hoki, snapper, tarakihi and warehou) after being set a quota of 27,700 tonnes.

The Japanese finfish catch was even lighter in terms of its quota, because Japanese boats took only 27,293 tonnes of a 73,000-tonne allowable catch.

The Russians came closest to fulfilling their quota by catching 44,888 tonnes of finfish, of a 65,000-tonne quota. The figures do not include catches taken by foreign-owned fishing boats charter-

CS0: 5200

OILFIELD OFF SOUTH ISLAND'S WEST COAST SEEN POSSIBLE

Wellington THE EVENING POST in English 27 May 80 p 40

[Text]

THE seabed off the South Island's West Coast may cover an untapped oilfield.

The research ship Tangaroa has just returned from a study of the area and the leader of the cruise, Dr Dave Bennett, (from the DSIR's geophysics division) said today future exploration of the area would be justified.

Although the area has a deep sedimentary base — the first thing looked for when prospecting — oil companies have not surveyed here before as the water is 1000 metres to 2000 metres deep.

Until a few years ago an area of this depth had

never been considered for prospecting but it is now "so it seemed a good idea to check it out," said Mr Bennett.

He said the expedition was "moderately successful" as, although a company must drill for oil to be certain, this area had a great enough thickness of sedimentary rocks.

The actual area of the Tangaroa's "reconnaissance survey" was the south-west side of Challenger Plateau which merges into the Lord Howe Rise.

The vessel left Wellington again today for a biological exploration to the Kermadec Ridge.

CS01 5200

ILLEGAL FISHING DAMAGING NAVY'S UNDERWATER TEST GEAR

Auckland THE NEW ZEALAND HERALD in English 17 Jun 80 p 1

[Report by HERALD marine reporter]

[Text]

The Royal New Zealand Navy is being hit by local illegal fishing while its fisheries protection fleet is away policing foreign trawlers on the continental shelf.

Local fishermen ignoring navigational warnings have caused damage running into thousands of dollars by fishing over the Navy's scientific gear just off Great Barrier Island.

The research ship HMNZS Tui recently discovered damage to the hydrophone cables which stretch four miles out to sea from the eastern shore of Great Barrier Island, where the Navy conducts noise measuring tests.

The Commodore Auckland,

Commodore D. H. O'Donoghue, said the cables were badly perforated by hooks from longlines and close inshore trawling had severed the cables and damaged spare equipment close to the shoreline.

The area is clearly defined on charts as a non-anchoring and fishing area and offenders can be fined up to \$1000 or face three months' imprisonment.

Local fishermen have also incurred the wrath of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, which is considering prosecuting two Auckland boats on another matter.

A fisheries protection patrol allegedly found the Auckland seine boats operating in prohibited waters at Rangunu Bay, near Houhora.

Fisheries protection resources have been stretched of late because the resources surveillance frigate HMNZS Taranaki is out of action.

The Taranaki was taken out of service at the beginning of the year with boiler tube problems and is not likely to go back into service until next month.

With two of its other frigates overseas, and the third on a long refit, the Navy has had to depend on its fleet of four small fisheries patrol boats.

CS0: 5200

PHILIPPINES

MARITIME SECTORS URGE CREATION OF ADMIRALTY COURTS

Manila PHILIPPINES DAILY EXPRESS in English 3 May 80 p 11

[Article by Hector M. Saquin]

[Text] Several sectors of the local maritime industry are seeking the establishment of an admiralty court to try cases involving sea disasters.

The move for the establishment of the specialized court was initiated by three maritime groups during a meeting last week.

They also made an assessment of existing practices and procedures in the training and qualification of maritime personnel.

However, the maritime groups did not propose any changes or amendments to the Philippine Merchant Marine Rules and Regulations which was published by the Philippine Coast Guard in 1976.

During the meeting the United Harbor Pilots Association (UHPAP), the Philippine Interisland Shipping Association and the Conference of Interisland Shipowners and Operators also called for:

--Improving the qualifying standards for merchant marine officers, including harbor and coastal pilots.

--Stricter control of the issuance of tickets.

--Upgrading the integrity of the ship manifests to include non-revenue passengers and crew members.

Many ideas were discussed in meetings, but in light of the current energy crunch and the spiralling costs of base metals, double bottoms for passenger ships were not even mentioned in the dialogues attended by Col. Generoso F. Tanseco, administrator of the Maritime Industry Authority and Commodore Simeon M. Alejandro, commandant of the Philippine Coast Guard.

Despite ship accidents, Tanseco said that shipping remains viable as an industry. He told members of 21 harbor pilot associations under Capt. Petronio B. Huerto, UHPAP president, that Filipino shipowners have increased substantially their investments from 61 ocean-going vessels in 1975, to 120 ships in 1979.

"This increase in tonnage resulted, in turn, to the dramatic increase of participation of Philippine-flag vessels in the carriage of foreign trade, from 7.8 percent in 1975 to 15 percent in 1979," Tanseco revealed.

Himself a shipowner, Tanseco appeared like a father to many pilots who admitted having been given their first jobs as apprentice mates by the colonel.

The rapport with Comodore Alejandro was also close as the pilots revealed that, as a group they expected the Coast Guard to be the agency most capable for improving the qualifying standards for merchant marine officers.

Capt. Huerto said that the PGO examinations given for harbor and coastal pilots have not been tainted by any report of anomaly, "thus giving their profession a very high degree of credibility."

Any move therefore to transfer the function of giving harbor pilots examinations from the Coast Guard will be opposed by us, UHPAP members said.

The joint meeting of PISA and CISO members were called by Jesus Perez Cardenas, PISA president, and Navy Capt Victorino C. Basco, CISO chairman.

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PHILIPPINES

BRIEFS

ILLEGAL FISHING, OFFICIAL CONNIVANCE--Manila, 30 May--Philippine Defense Minister Juan Ponce Enrile relieved today the entire constabulary (national guard) and coast guard unit assigned to Zambo, Batan Province 48 kms (30 miles) west of Manila, for their alleged connivance with illegal fishermen. Minister Enrile issued the relief order during a meeting with fishermen and local officials from Bataan who complained against the illegal use of dynamite and poisons by bigtime fishermen. The fishermen said the constabulary and coast guard authorities in the area were in connivance with illegal fishermen. The defense chief ordered the military to intensify the drive against illegal fishing which he said is now rampant all over the country. He said that from 1972 to 1977 illegal fishing was hardly reported but since 1978 complaints have again flooded law enforcement agencies. Fishermen blamed unscrupulous bigtime fishermen for fish shortages in various areas, to the detriment of small fishermen. (Hong Kong AFP English 0930 GMT 30 May 80 OW)

CSO: 3200

THAILAND

FOREIGN MINISTRY DRAFTS 200-MILE OFFSHORE ZONE

RM261320 Hong Kong AFP In English 1309 GMT 26 May 80

(Text) Bangkok, 26 May (AFP)--A Thai Foreign Ministry committee has finalized the draft of a royal proclamation declaring Thailand's 200-mile offshore economic zone, official sources reported today. The sources said the draft, finalized by the committee last Friday, would soon be submitted to the cabinet for approval and later issued as a royal proclamation.

Following Malaysia's declaration on April 26, Thailand will be the last Southeast Asian state to declare a 200-mile economic zone.

The sources noted that it was a move aimed at protecting the country's natural resources and Thailand's declaration states its willingness to settle disputes with neighbouring states through negotiations. The zone is expected to cover about 29,000 square miles of territory in the Andaman Sea and the Gulf of Thailand which flank Thailand's east and west coasts.

Agreements are yet to be reached with Vietnam and Cambodia which also claim areas in the gulf but tentative agreements have been reached with Indonesia, India and Burma informed sources noted. Since the declaration of such a zone requires reciprocal respect of similar zones declared by neighbouring states, the Thai fishing industry is expected to be most affected.

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INTER-AMERICAN AFFAIRS

BEAGLE CHANNEL NEGOTIATIONS CONTINUE

Report of Papal Decision Denied

FY071719 Santiago Chile Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 7 Jun 80

[Excerpt] Foreign Relations Under Secretary Ernesto Videla has stated that publications regarding the results of the pope's mediation carried in the Milan newspaper *IL GIORNALE* are absolutely groundless.

According to the publication, Pope John Paul II would establish the delimitation of the Atlantic and Pacific ocean at the 66th Meridian, a few miles east of Nueva Island. The publication also points out that the pope would recognize the Chilean rights over the Beagle channel established in a ruling by the British Government.

In Santiago, Videla dismissed the information and stated that negotiations are carried out in secret.

Chilean Delegation Returns to Rome

FY061-28 Santiago Chile Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 6 Jun 80

[Excerpts] Foreign Ministry Under Secretary Ernesto Videla has stated that the new round of joint negotiations which will start on Monday should be carried out in an atmosphere of optimism which is the characteristic of any negotiations which seek peace.

Videla will travel to Rome today at the head of the Chilean delegation, which is comprised of (Santiago Bernadada), Francisco Orrego, Helmut Bruner, (Patricio Prieto) and advisers Patricio Pozo and (Osvaldo Munoz). The delegation will meet in Rome with the permanent delegation to the mediation, which is headed by Enrique Bernstein.

Videla pointed out that this new phase of the negotiations that are being conducted by the pope's representative, Cardinal Samore, will be devoted to analyzing the most important points which were previously identified.

Videla stated that the Chilean delegation, as on previous occasions, is traveling with great optimism and that this optimism is endorsed by the confidence that the Chilean Government and nation have in the mediator.

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INTER-AMERICAN AFFAIRS

BRIEFS

HONDURAN FISHERMEN KIDNAPED BY NICARAGUA--Two Honduran fishermen were kidnaped by a Nicaraguan Patrol boat, which violating our national sovereignty, entered into Honduran territorial waters at a place called Guapirol in Choluteca Department. Meanwhile, the Nicaraguan Foreign Ministry announced yesterday that the Sandinist government will formally ask the Honduran Government, through the Honduran Foreign Ministry, to dismantle all camps occupied by former Somozist guardsmen in our country. [Excerpts] [PA281739 Tegucigalpa Radio America in Spanish 1700 GMT 27 May 80]

CSO: 5200

PROPOSED UNIFORM FISHING LAW PROVISIONS REVIEWED

Abu Dhabi AL-WANDAH in Arabic 21 Apr 80 p 6

[Article: "Uniform Fishing Law in the Gulf States and the Arab Peninsula: "Regulating Fishing with a License from the Competent Authorities; Banning the Use of Substances Harmful to the Growth and Reproduction of Fish"]

[Text] Dubai, MNA--The committee to draft the planned uniform fishing law in the Gulf and Arab Peninsula states will debate the project prepared for this purpose by experts in the area of international nutrition and agriculture in its meeting which will be held in Riyadh in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia next Sunday, in order to carry out the decisions of the conference of agriculture ministers in the region.

At this meeting the Emirate states will be represented by a delegation including Dr Rif'at Mustafa, adviser to the Fish Resources Administration in the Ministry of Agriculture and Fishing, and Hasan 'Ila, fish resources official in Abu Dhabi.

The EMIRATE NEWS AGENCY learned that the planned law contains 14 articles, which make up the rules and regulations pertaining to fishing in the concerned nations.

The plan incorporates compliance with the regulations and laws in effect in each nation. It prohibits to foreign fishing ships the maritime regions for which the competent minister has not issued a resolution permitting [entry].

These ships will have to comply with this law strictly after it is instituted, as well as the resolutions issued in order to carry it out, where they do not conflict with international conventions.

The law also incorporates the fact that fishing ships are not allowed to fish until a license is obtained from the administrative party concerned with fish resources in each nation. Specified in the license are the ship's description, the fishing methods and equipment and the ship's crew. It is not permitted to set up maritime fishing nets, such as the khatur, towed

nets, etc., until a license is obtained from the administrative party concerned with fish resources. The license specifies the location, dimensions and mesh size of the nets.

According to the planned law the party concerned with fish resources will be charged with drafting the rules regulating fishing by amateurs [i.e., sportsmen] and members of clubs and associations. It will be allowed to require obtaining a license in necessary cases.

The planned law specifies that [the following] are the task of the concerned minister: issuing ordinances regulating fishermen, which is related to the conditions and provisions for licenses which are embodied in the law; imposing fees for the licenses mentioned above, specifying the taxes for them and how they are paid, and cases which are exempt from them; and requiring fishing ships to have identifying numbers or marks on them.

It incorporates tasking the concerned minister with defining fishing ship descriptions from the standpoint of shape, location, size, safety conditions, and other characteristics.

The law bans the use of substances which are harmful to the growth, reproduction and migration of fish and other seafood. It specifies the [legal] sizes of fish and seafood, certain types of which cannot be fished during a specified or unspecified time in the nation's territorial waters. It defines the sanitary conditions which are necessary and must be observed in order to preserve fish resources and avoid spoiling them, and it organizes services to workers in the fishing profession.

The planned law includes the formation of a supreme council for fish resources, whose membership includes representatives of the concerned governmental and nongovernmental administrative and technical parties.

The powers of the proposed council can be summarized as drafting policy to ensure protecting and promoting water resources, drafting a program to organize fishing affairs and coordinate among the governmental parties which are linked to fish resources, and achieving a balance between the projects undertaken by governmental or private parties aimed at promoting and exploiting fish resources. The supreme council for water resources is concerned with drafting proposals pertaining to passing or modifying legislation and reviewing problems related to water resources submitted to it by the government. In every matter which is brought up it issues recommendations which are submitted to the Council of Ministers in order to make the appropriate decision.

The planned law allows the concerned minister to select the working officials who monitor execution of this law, carry out inspections and settle violations against its ordinances and the resolutions which implement it. These officials and workers have the right to investigate the sale of spoiled fish and seafood and to deposit its sale price in the custody of the court until the violation is judged.

The planned law is also concerned with impounding every ship which fishes without a license from the competent authorities and confiscating seafood which has been trapped and the fishing equipment and implements which are on board. It penalizes the violator by requiring him to pay double the license fees. The ship and its equipment are not released unless bail is set by the competent investigative authority.

It is noteworthy that the conference of agriculture ministers in the Gulf and Arab Peninsula states formed a special committee, which includes the member nations at the conference, to discuss the possibility of drafting the uniform fishing regulations and laws in the concerned nations. Based on a resolution from the conference, a delegation of legal experts from the Food and Agriculture Organization had previously gathered the necessary information from the aforementioned member nations and had arrived at this form of the law, which the committee will debate at its next meeting in order to submit the planned law afterwards to the sixth conference of Arab agriculture ministers in the Gulf and Arab Peninsula states. It will be held in Bahrain in March of next year, to make an appropriate decision with regard to the law.

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INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

NORWAY, DENMARK DISPUTE FISHING ZONE

'Clear Collision Course'

LD110871 Oslo AFTENPOSTEN in Norwegian 6 Jun 80 p 9

[Morten Pynn report: "Denmark's East Greenland Zone: Norwegian Protest to Copenhagen"]

[Text] Norway and Denmark are on a clear collision course over the question of where the demarcation line between the Jan Mayen fishing zone and the new zone off east Greenland should be drawn. On Wednesday the Norwegian Government sent a protest note to Denmark dismissing the Danish demand that the Greenland zone be fully effective to a distance of 200 nautical miles from the coast.

The distance between the two coasts is less than 400 nautical miles and Norway therefore accuses Denmark of violating the general principles of international law by allowing the zone to remain in force beyond the median line, without having entered an agreement with Norway about this. The note states that Norway will uphold the Jan Mayen zone regulations right up to the median line, and at the same time expresses the hope that Norway and Denmark can reach agreement through negotiation as soon as possible on a final demarcation line.

But there is little danger that there will be conflict in the area since the importance of fishing in the area is only small. Denmark has also made it clear that its jurisdiction will not be upheld beyond the median line. In other words, with a view to the coming negotiations Norway has voiced its reservations about accepting the Danish claim that the east Greenland zone applies to its full extent.

Foreign Minister Knut Prydenlund did not attempt to conceal the fact that the negotiations will be difficult when he spoke to AFTENPOSTEN. He emphasized that the median line must serve as a basis for the negotiations.

In its reasoning on the matter, Denmark voices exactly the same views on Jan Mayen as Iceland did in its conflict with Norway, namely, that Norway does not have a right to its own zone here and to the continental shelf. Then Norway accepted that the Icelandic zone would remain in force to its full 200 miles in the direction of Jan Mayen. Norway maintains that Iceland was a special case because of the country's great dependence on fishing.

In the Norwegian view, the case is very different with Denmark and the east Greenland zone, both because the Greenlanders themselves hardly do any fishing in the waters and because the zone will in reality be an EEC zone.

Norway is careful not to show the EEC's fishermen the same leniency that it showed Iceland's.

The area of the overlap between the Jan Mayen zone and the east Greenland zone totals 80,000 square kilometers--over three times the size of the disputed area between Jan Mayen and Iceland.

Danish Foreign Minister Kjeld Olesen was in Oslo on 31 May, the day before Denmark set up the Greenland zone, to try to reach agreement on the demarcation line with Foreign Minister Knut Prydenlund. The talks between the two did not lead to a solution, and Denmark established a full 200-mile zone. So Norway responded with the note. Negotiations between the two countries are planned for September. The Greenland authorities maintain that the fishing zone around Greenland must be one of 200 nautical miles, chairman of the Greenland Government (Prime Minister) Jonathan Motzfeldt said in a comment on the Norwegian note, the NORWEGIAN NEWS AGENCY reports.

Motzfeldt stressed that the Greenland fishing fleet does not want to resort to means that will lead to an open fishery conflict between Norway, Greenland and Denmark, but it will have to be the Norwegians who make the concessions.

War of Notes

L3121355 Copenhagen AKTUELT in Danish 10 Jun 80 p 13

[Unattributed report: "War of Notes Between Denmark and Norway"]

[Text] Danish-Norwegian disagreement on the fishing limits between east Greenland and the small uninhabited island of Jan Mayen north of Iceland has assumed the character of a war of notes.

It began when Norway, after enlarging the fishing zone round Jan Mayen to 200 nautical miles, informed Denmark in a note that Norway would uphold its control of fishing in all of the new zone round Jan Mayen and has also fixed a mid-line between its own zone and Denmark's. Denmark had originally decided to maintain control only as far as the mid-line and not to enter the disputed "gray zone" in the areas where the Danish and Norwegian fishing limits overlap. Because of recent developments and the Norwegian decision, Foreign Minister Kjeld Olesen has informed the Norwegian Embassy in Copenhagen in a note that Denmark will reconsider its attitude to its fishery jurisdiction over the full range of the 200-mile zone off Greenland. The gray zone, on which the two countries cannot reach agreement, comprises an area of 80,000 square kilometers.

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INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

NORWAY APPROVES JAN MAYEN ACCORD WITH ICELAND

Storting Approval

LD110835 Oslo AFTENPOSTEN in Norwegian 7 Jun 80 p 8

[Unattributed report: "Jan Mayen Agreement Accepted: Best for Fishing in Long Term"]

[Excerpt] The Storting has given its approval to the Jan Mayen agreement between Norway and Iceland by 122 votes to 8. In yesterday's debate it was clearly emphasized that the agreement's weak point is the short-term consequences for fishing, and one speaker after another voiced his understanding of the dissatisfaction among fishing circles. But at the same time it was asserted that, in the long term and in a broader perspective, it is to the fishing industry's advantage that the agreement was signed.

Earlier Developments

LD041145 Oslo AFTENPOSTEN in Norwegian 31 May 80 p 29

[Unattributed report: "Storting Approves Jan Mayen Agreement"]

[Text] The Jan Mayen agreement between Norway and Iceland is given unanimous support by a strengthened Foreign Affairs and Constitution Committee in the Storting. This is clear from the proposal from the committee which will be discussed in the Storting this coming Friday. The alternative is no agreement and open conflict between Norway and Iceland, the committee concludes.

The strengthened Foreign Affairs and Constitution Committee does not hide the fact that there is dissatisfaction with the agreement among fishing circles.

"The solution that was negotiated means major concessions by Norway on fishing." In this connection the committee would especially like to point to the considerable rights granted to Iceland with regard to fixing capelin quotas for waters off Iceland and Jan Mayen. But, the committee goes on to say, an important consideration for the committee here was the fact that Iceland, through this agreement, recognizes Norway's right to establish a fishing zone around Jan Mayen.

In unanimous recommendation of the agreement, the following reasons are given:

"The alternative would be no agreement and open conflict between Iceland and Norway." It is not only from the point of view of foreign policy that this, in the view of the committee, would have wide-ranging harmful effects, it would also be difficult to assert our fishing interests in such a situation.

Norwegian Concessions Explained

LD050815 Oslo AFTENPOSTEN in Norwegian 29 May 80 p 16

[Arild Isegg report: "Large New Sea Area Under Norwegian Jurisdiction"]

[Text] The Norwegian fishing zone around Jan Mayen has been established effective today after Iceland and Norway yesterday signed an agreement on rights to fishing and resources on the continental shelf, recently negotiated between the two countries. With the new area, Norwegian waters increase by 300,000 square km. At a press conference yesterday both Foreign Minister Knut Frydenlund and Fisheries Minister Eivind Bolle were concerned to defend the Norwegian concessions which made the agreement possible.

The foreign minister expressed his understanding of the criticism that has been directed at the agreement in the light of the concessions made by Norway, but pointed out that the government had to take account of the alternative: no agreement and the establishment of a zone without Icelandic consent. The Icelanders would then assert its rights and so make the area a conflict zone, or to employ no force to that end, with the consequences that this might have.

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